UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Daniel SHERWIN

Examiner R. BLACKMAN

Application Number: 09/766,573 ~

Group Art Unit 2851

Filed:

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For:

TRIPOD

RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed March 12, 2002, please amend the abovecaptioned patent application as follows.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace original Fig. 5 with replacement Fig. 5. Applicants are including replacement Figs. 4 and 5 (Figs. 4 and 5 originally were submitted on the same page) with this responsive amendment. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants also are including a marked-up copy of Fig. 5, with the changes marked in red ink, with this responsive amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel original claim 3, without prejudice.

Please replace original claims 1 and 14 with replacement claims 1 and 14, as follows:

- A fast-deployable light weight tripod, comprising 1. (amended)
 - a) a center support for supporting a load, provided with three peripheral hinge members;
- b) at least three multi-stage telescoping leg assemblies each attached to one of said hinge members, each leg assembly comprising at least two compression-resistant members interconnected by a telescopic joint;
- c) at least one cam locking unit associated with each telescopic joint, each locking unit having a first engaged position which allows extension of said leg assembly but prevents relative axial movement which would shorten the length of said leg assembly, and a second disengaged

